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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 15, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

Cutters' News and Events

By Samuel Perlmutter
Member of Local 10

Volunteers Wanted

Local 10 sent a few days ago a call to all members to assist in the Saturday drive for the control of work hours in the clothing departments. About 150 men responded.

That's not enough by far. We have inaugurated a drive to carry out a complete control over the enforcement of the 55-hour and five-day week in both our major industries, cloak and dress. The employers must realize that we mean business. For this we need not less than 500 men, and these committees must be in the market shortly at the right hour on Saturday morning and on Sundays. The gathering point is our headquarters, 100 West 33rd Street, and the hour is not later than 7 in the morning.

We, therefore, take this means for calling forth men upon all cars that we want them without delay. Don't wait for a letter, come to the office, or send in your name, and get on the job. You will be assigned immediately to a section in the market where your help is required, and you will do your share towards making the work hours and the work-days regulations of our agreement and of the code the living law of the industry.

Cutters, On the Whole, Law-Abiding

Let me state here, in justice to the great majority of our members, that in the cloak industry, very few cutters have been found violating the Five-day week clause in the agreement, nor do we find many violators in the dress industry. Of course, there are quite a number of employers who are anxious to escape the consequences of the law, while here to evade agreement obligations, particularly the 55-hour, five-day week, but that is not the concern of the cutters. The cutters have driven a fair into their hearts and we intend to keep them in check.

That is the dress industry, where the code has not yet officially been announced, the violations are more frequent, though as we compare present-day conditions with those which prevailed prior to the general dress strike, we must concede that the ratio of violations is almost insignificant. Yet, the dress industry still shows a good deal of

THE NEW OFFICE OF
LOCAL 10
will be at
80 West 33rd Street
beginning on or about
October 1, 1933

policing, and it is to the dress cutters, in particular, that we make our strongest appeal for volunteer service to see to it that the hours regulations remain inviolate and are fully observed in all the factories.

Death of Silk Forces Change of Lines

A byproduct of the general strike prevailing now a number of silk mill towns, notably in Paterson, N. J. and Allentown, Pa., has been a shortage of silk materials in the New York silk dress market. Many dress manufacturers have been unable to secure silks in required quantities, and many of the cutters in the silk dress factories have been laid off during last week on account of this shortage.

This situation, however, has prompted several firms to switch from silk to woolen dresses, and this change of lines has kept the cutters in many shops on the job. It is no doubt a disturbing fact and let's hope it will soon be over.

Silk, Woollen, Underwear and Children's Dress Cutters

There have occurred in the past few weeks a number of general strikes in the so-called miscellaneous trades which involve in the main the clothing and dress departments. Our members, no doubt, are interested in learning what settlements we have made with the employers in these trades and what their scales are. Here are the facts: In the Hosiery shops, where the workers are transferring to the machines the cutters' scale is — \$45 for markers, \$35 for machine cutters, and \$25 for strikers. \$44 in the underwear industry, which is divided along four distinct lines, the scales are:

Lingerie Manufacturers' Association — 40 shops involving about 300 cutters—cutters-mechanics \$42 a week, assistants, \$24. Those receiving below the scale will have to be raised up to the scale; those receiving \$35 at the present time will receive \$32.

Allied Underwear Association—about 120 shops and 750 cutters—markers \$40, machine cutters \$38, strikers \$28.

Negative Manufacturers' Association — 40 shops — markers \$43, machine cutters, \$33, strikers \$23.

Negative Manufacturers Association — 40 shops — markers \$43, machine cutters, \$33, strikers \$23.

Infants and Children's Underwear — 60 shops — markers \$40, machine cutters \$30, strikers \$20.

The children's dress industry, which involves more than ten thousand workers, among them several hundred cutters, is still on strike at this writing, though there are prospects there of an early settlement. An agreement on some points, we are informed, had already been reached in this industry, but some very important details are still lacking and the workers still stay out until a clear-cut ultimatum is offered.

Cutters Punished for Hours Violations

A few facts concerning the practices of some dress firms who still, as it would seem, fail to realize that they are under contractual obligations to live up to agreements, might be of interest to our readers.

The cutters of the firm David Westheim, 1409 Broadway, a dress house, were discovered working late at night. They were summoned before the Executive Board of Local 10, and after the case had been fully discussed, the cutters were fined \$100 each and were ordered not to return to work until their fines were paid. When the cutters were out for a few hours, the National Dress Manufacturers' Association called upon Local 10 for an explanation and was given the reason for this action in the following letter:

"Mr. Jod Rybick, Mr. National Dress Mfgs. Assn.

Dear Sir:— Kindly be informed that the firm of David Westheim, 1409 Broadway, has committed one of the gravest violations of the agreement by its cutters as late as 11 P. M. midnight. The manner in which this was done is as follows: The cutters were ordered to go down for lunch at 3 P. M., return to work immediately thereafter, and continue working until 11 P. M.

You realize, I am sure, that this is a most defiant attitude to be adopted by any one of the cutters in the beginning of the strike. It is a violation of the basic principle and program of the Union and the NRA, which is the shortening of hours one of the greatest instruments for the elimination of unfair competition.

It is, therefore, hope that you will act immediately to the end that the firm may be properly disciplined.

Yours very truly,
SAMUEL PERLMUTTER, Manager."

In the cutting department of another firm, Virginia Proctor, the men were also found late at night. Observing the 55-hour work rule, and had to be called, after several warnings, before the Executive Board. In this case it was discovered that head-cutter Hym Zimer was mostly responsible for this failure to live up to actual conditions. He was fined \$100 with the additional stipulation for future good behavior exacted from him, while the men were fined \$25 each.

Sidney Schweitzer, a cutter who works regularly for the firm of M. Hoffman, was summoned before the Executive Board for working at night for another firm. He was fined \$100.

Yet, you may easily observe from these publications, which may appear drastic but are nevertheless essential, that Local 10 means business with the hours and work rule, and will not be swayed from its duty and policy.

Special Meeting on October 9

In view of the tremendous increase in membership in Local 10, which has made it necessary to add a number of officers to work to attend to the duties of the various departments, we are faced with the fact that our local constitution, or by-laws, must be revised to meet this condition.

Without loss of time, we have therefore ordered a Special Meeting to take place on Monday, October 9, in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Pl., at 7:30 p. m. Regular meeting place, to amend the constitution and to take other necessary steps required to meet this extraordinary situation.

JUSTICE

Official Organ of The International
Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Vol. XV, No. 7.

Jersey City, N. J., November 1, 1933

Price 10 Cents

Editorial Notes

IT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME for us who worked and struggled at the side of Morris Hillquit and who followed his courageous and wise leadership for so many years to get used to the thought that he is no longer among us, that he is not among the living.

A Great Leader Passes

We shall not undertake to appraise Morris Hillquit's inestimable value to the Socialist movement and to the American radical and progressive movement as a whole. We can only say that our own organization, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has suffered in his passing an irreparable loss. Insofar as the cloakmakers and the dressmakers are concerned, we are deeply convinced, Morris Hillquit cannot be replaced.

Morris Hillquit combined in himself the keen realist with an uncanny grasp of industrial conditions and practical situations and the crusading idealist who would not be swayed from the ultimate goal of our movement. He was the ideal spokesman for our economic aspirations, the matchless negotiator at the conference table and the inspiring orator at our great assemblies.

Morris Hillquit always gave in the supreme confidence that with him at the helm we could not be beaten. No matter how grave situations looked at times and how perplexing the problems seemed, we invariably relied on Morris Hillquit to disentangle our difficulties and to solve our disturbing problems. In his calm, deliberative and persuasive way, he could diagnose the trouble and would somehow extract from his mental arsenal a proposal that

would eventually convince everybody of its wisdom and logic.

But Morris Hillquit was not merely a great thinker and counselor. Those who had the privilege to work with him closely know what a splendid comrade and fine humanitarian he was. For underneath his calm and dignified exterior there dwelt in him a golden heart that remained itself at every decisive moment in his relations with his fellow workers and associates.

The world admired and respected Morris Hillquit because he was a great man and because he applied his marvelous gifts towards the betterment and emancipation of mankind. We followed and loved Morris Hillquit because he had devoted his life to our cause and to our problems. And now that he is gone, we and those who will come after us will for generations reverse his memory as one of the great pioneers of social and economic justice in America and as champion of the rights of the toilers all over the world.

THE ADVANCE MADE by the I. L. G. W. U. in the past half year, which resulted in a gain of more than 100,000 members and the unionization of a half dozen industries and markets, does not cover all the gains of our industry in the United States. According to a recent estimate by President Doolittle, there are at least another 80,000 workers employed in this industry, on a seasonal basis, of every description who have not yet been affected by our far-reaching organization drive. A great many of these are employed in cotton dress and underwear factories in the Middle and Far West, while large shops in similar towns even in the East are known to operate on non-union work-hour and pay schedules.

For the time being, a years ago definite, how-

Schedule of October Meetings

ATTENTION

Cutters, Members of Local 10

Meetings for the following month will take place in the order as herein arranged.

1. Special Membership Meeting, Monday, October 2, 1933.

2. Regular Membership Meeting, Monday, October 26, 1933.

All these meetings are to be held in ARLINGTON HALL,

23 St. Marks Pl., at 7:30 p. m. Cutters are urged to attend without

excuse will be stamped signifying attendance and the \$1.00 fine for non-attendance will be strictly enforced.

FULL TEXT OF DRESS CODE — ON PAGES 15-18

ever, major organizing operations by the I. L. G. W. U. will come to a halt. The membership of the Union will, naturally and as a matter of course, continue to increase and new shops will continue to be added to the roster of unionized shops in all cities and centers of our activity. But it is quite obvious that our major task has now shifted from gaining new territory to holding the acquisitions we have already made. We must bear in mind that the spectacular campaign which has so tremendously increased our membership was carried on largely among workers who never before were affiliated with a trade union and to whom the very aims and purposes of trade unionism had been rather obscure. Three-fourths of the new membership of the I. L. G. W. U. besides, is composed of women workers, an element admittedly difficult both to organize and to keep within a labor union.

There are other points to consider. The thousands of recently organized workers—dressmakers, underground workers, lingerie and corset workers—have all returned to work after relatively brief strikes to union shops on conditions vastly different from the conditions under which they had worked before. Their employers had never before been union manufacturers, and it may readily be expected that, until properly acclimated, some of them will attempt to treat their obligations under the union agreements rather lightly. Such an employer attitude, when applied especially to workers who are still new to unionism, might easily cause demoralization and dissatisfaction among them. Again, it must be borne in mind that the situation in the women's garment trades—and that means both the industrial and the union ends of it—depends closely on the situation in all industry and on the destiny of the general recovery program and its ultimate results the country over.

To hold this vast army of new recruits, to defend their varied work standards in so many different places, to make good trade unionists of them and to fortify the Union's position in general against the eventuality of a reaction, is evidently a colossal task.

It was in this light that the General Executive Board of the Union had considered the situation in the I. L. G. W. U. early last month at its Washington meeting. To stay on top, we must dig in and hold our positions. We must hold our membership intact and our work conditions secure. We must train our new members to administer their local affairs in harmony with the general rules and program of our Union and of the labor movement. We must organize as perfect a control machinery for the shops in every district as is physically possible.

This is a big order, a bigger task perhaps than many of our friends imagine. But in the past half year we have become accustomed to doing things on a large scale. Somehow, we have the confidence that, despite apparent hardships involved in the carrying out of such a huge organizational and educational program, it shall be achieved.

SUCH VISIONARIES as have expected a "revolution" at the 53rd Convention of the American Federation of Labor, which closed its sessions two weeks ago in Washington, may feel duly disappointed. Their expectations have not been materialized. Those, however, who view American life realistically could scarcely deny that the American Federation of Labor at this convention has registered a distinct advance.

There were five major matters before the Washington convention—the question of sanctioning the so-called "horizontal" plan of organization, or the industrial form of unionism, in addition to the "vertical," or strictly craft form prevalent now; the attitude of the Federation toward the NRA and its administration; the enlargement of the Executive Council to make it more representative of the membership of the Federation; the Hitler boycott resolution, and the admission of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers to the A. F. of L.

The convention rejected the enlargement of the Executive Council sponsored by John L. Lewis. The first proposal, to have twenty-five members in the Council, instead of the present eight, it is now admitted, might have had a better chance of passing if it had not been presented largely as an intimation that the Council as constituted now was little more than a "council of elders." In view of the fact that the Federation had recorded this year a gain in membership of nearly a million and a half under the leadership of the present Council, such a rebuke could have received but scant support. Besides, the plan might have had a better chance if, instead of twenty-five, it would have asked for a more reasonable increase.

The Convention has admitted the Amalgamated Clothing Workers into the Federation, thus ending a quarrel in the clothing industry of nearly twenty years standing and paving the way, as it looks to us, for the eventual amalgamation of all the men's clothing workers into one great union. The convention passed, with but one dissenting vote, the Hitler boycott resolution, rallying the forces of American labor for combating the bestialities of the Nazis and their brutal destruction of the German trade unions. And, finally, the convention pledged its full support to the NRA and to the policies of national recovery, without failing to emphasize at the same time that organized labor should not and will not relinquish the strike weapon against offending employers or anti-union industrialists.

Whether the A. F. of L., at this 53rd convention, would have swung more definitely to the left had not the NRA appeared on the American industrial horizon remains, of course, sheer speculation. The fact is that the NRA is here, an overwhelming reality in American economic life today determining and shaping labor policy in every industry just as it is dominating every other side of the national

economy. And another no less significant fact is that NRA is basically an offshoot of the recovery program which the A. F. of L. has begun advocating right after the depression had set in—namely, the shorter workday and augmented purchasing power for the workers—and has consistently and persistently advanced to this hour.

And the declaration by the Convention in favor of the 30-hour work-week and of revision of all existing codes to embody in them at once the shorter hours, offers added testimony that the A. F. of L. will continue to wage a militant fight for the employment of the idle millions, still the greatest task confronting America today.

THE INCLUSION OF THE NRA LABEL IN

The retailers' code approved last week by President Roosevelt is a decided gain for the movement to stabilize the garment industry.

The Retailers and

The NRA Label

Without doubt, the part of the retailer in the task of promoting and supporting the NRA label on women's and men's fashions, a large one. The Code Authority in the Coat and Suit Industry, for one, has recognized the important role of the distributor in upholding decent work conditions and fair competitive practices in that industry and has sought from the start to enlist retailer cooperation along with wide consumer interest.

The retailer—and that includes the department store owner as well as the specialty shop proprietor—now has a direct duty imposed upon him by his own code to use NRA label merchandise. The words in that code that no retailer shall "purchase, sell or exchange any merchandise manufactured under a code of fair competition which requires such merchandise to bear an NRA label, unless said merchandise bears such label" leave no loophole for even the most ardent objector. The authorities in the garment industry, charged with the enforcement of the NRA label provision, have thus now obtained a powerful ally in the retailer code.

With the cooperation of the employers, the workers and the retailers thus definitely enlisted on behalf of the NRA label on garments, the consuming public should find no difficulty now in identifying and demanding clothes produced under decent standards as contrasted with bootleg merchandise, and help thereby to banish the sweatshop forever from the garment industry.

LAST MONTH, the American trade union movement, acting through the American Federation of Labor, and the American people, with President

Roosevelt as its spokes-

man, dedicated a great

monument to Samuel

Gompers.

The hundred-thousand dollar fund to defray the cost of the movement's new industry, half-dollar and dollar contributed by members of the various labor

organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor over a period of nearly ten years.

Perhaps no other group in the American trade union movement, no other International Union owes as much to the genius and the generous cooperation of Gompers as does our I. L. G. W. U. and the workers who are affiliated with it. Anyone who is familiar with the history of our Union, with the history of the cloakmakers' and of the workers in all the other branches of our industry, knows that, practically to the day of his death, Samuel Gompers took a close part and a deep interest in all our activities. He never missed to come to any of our conventions, to speak to us in person and to give us a message of guidance and advice. Samuel Gompers, for twenty-five years came willingly, gladly to our great meetings on the eve of strikes or after conflicts with employers to offer us encouragement, and counsel. He regarded the cloakmakers and the dressmakers, indeed, as his favorite children, as he frequently used to say.

And, as we stood on that bright October morning among the great host who came to dedicate a monument in memory and in honor to the memory of Samuel Gompers, we felt that, while the founder of the American trade union movement is no more physically in our midst, the spirit of Samuel Gompers, the builder, the fighter and the clear-headed thinker, will continue to flower over the great American labor scene; that his name and his deeds will never be forgotten, especially by our own workers to whom his sympathies and keen friendship were always open and who, in turn, paid him back with devotion and undying loyalty.

MORRIS HILLQUIT

By Gertrude W. Klein

*To some time gives long years
Of life whistling down an empty street;
For him the days were crowded, and too fleet
To let us note their passing. Our tears,
Our battlements of suffering and defeat
Were his life's burden, and our tears
A charge his shining lips rose to meet.*

*To some time gives bright playthings
For their pleasure,
Wealth, glory, power and the leisure
To fascinate the world with their blaze;
For him one single, simple element to measure
The value of his days.*

*These beaten men, whose failures and whose cares
Looked from their baffled eyes
Were his own cross, at once a soaring challenge
And a call to battle in a high emprise.*

*He might have walked with kings accredited,
Enshrined, he lives among us, even dead.*

In Chicago and West of it

The "New" Union in Chicago

Upon my return from the meeting of the General Executive Board in Washington I found, after an absence of ten days, plenty of work awaiting me.

It is not natural that the dress organization should be the main center of our attention at this time. In a sense, Local 100, though an old line union, has been the chief center about an overwhelming majority of newly recruited members. The agreement in the dress trade is also still new, and the business agents assigned to the dress shops still have to be guided in their work. It takes time and experience to nurse along a young organization until all its activities fall into regular alignment and begin to function properly.

First Post-Strike Meeting

I arranged for conferences with the association in the dress trade and, first of all, cleared up the committee doubt. Then we proceeded to hold meetings with the locals, first with the cutters, then with the dressmakers, the members of Local 100. That was their first meeting since the strike, and we held it in the big Cardinals' Hall, on Ashland Boulevard, where the 1930 convention of the I.L.O.W.U. was held. We had about 1,000 members at the meeting and it was a splendid gathering in every sense of the word. A few Communists came prepared to raise a disturbance, but they were quickly made to behave and the meeting was carried out in the best order.

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By Morris Bialik, V.-P.
Manager Chicago Joint Board

There is very little work in the dress shops right now, while the cloak industry is also in its usual after-strike slump. Discussions among the cloakmakers' new chief center about the new agreement. The contract here will expire on November 30, and we are informed that the cloak manufacturers are again forming an association. Thus far, only the Chicago and the Milwaukee shops have requested a conference about an agreement. As I am writing, the contractors of Mr. Maurice Kohn, an important local jobber, have declared a stoppage because he has refused to give work to one of his contractors. The Union is stepping into this situation as mediator, and we expect to straighten it out.

We Outgrow Our Quarters

We are today crowded in our headquarters to an extent that prevents the smooth functioning of an abnormally increased organization. For the past few weeks, the Union has been so busy that quarters have almost been at a premium. The local would meet our purpose with regard to location, size and light.

Local 100, only a short time ago, the leading union in our chain, is today a giant in our midst, with more than 4,000 members on its rolls. Most of them, however, are new to our organization helterskoters. Growing, gradually, however, they are getting closer to us as one can see by the way they are acting at shop meetings and by the manner they are turning in their shop complaints. Surely, they realize the great change that has taken place in their work conditions; for, after all, 25 hours a week are not 40, and \$12 a week minimum is not \$7 or \$15!

The Dress Cutters and Pressers

The dress cutters and pressers have two line locals and their new agreement has been well attended. They discuss their problems intelligently and, indeed, they have plenty of friends in the Union. The cutters are confronted with the question of unemployment, as the employers, it seems, had found their cutting rooms with burners during the recessionary drive, and the Union has its hands full now in trying to place all these men on jobs. And the dress trade at present is very, very slack.

This slowing down in the dress shops is giving the pressers also a good deal of worry, as some of the employers, forgetting about the existence of an agreement, appear to be sending out workers and to force down prices. But the pressers are handling this problem like veterans and there is no doubt but that they will not permit themselves to be exploited.

Cloakmakers Are Idle

The post-strike season in Chicago, now that it is over, looks in the retrospect like most other work seasons—it was a pretty good one for those who worked in it. In the better shops and had a good deal of work, and it was rather a boon for those who had little work. At this time, however, all seem to be on the same footing—all are slack and all are taken up with the same worry, how to make ends meet meanwhile, during the remaining idle weeks?

In the cloak locals, however, activity rather than idleness prevails. There are discussions of the code, debating of plans for future moves, while committees are busy working out suggestions for the new agreement after the present one expires on November 30. Oh, yes, our cloakmakers have had a quarter of the last few weeks building down fake labor. An enterprising firm in this town has been running a campaign, calling the bright idea of printing pretty labels—supposedly NLRB—and selling them to the trade at three-cent prices, a sort of bargain rate. Indeed! The decent employers, naturally, "read" have nothing to do with this business, but there were some firms which fell for these marked-down labels.

The Joint Board at once took steps to counteract the campaign. A shop chairman's meeting was called, at which this matter was taken up, and we at once sent out letters with the local office of the Code and Suit Code Authority. "be head office of the Authority in New York also took the required state and federal printing firm soon received direct orders from Washington, forbidding it to engage in this practice.

Cloakmakers everywhere should be on the lookout against such violations and should be helpful in detecting and running down firms and individuals who tamper with the NLRB label on cloaks or any other garments.

Raincoat and Underwear Workers

There is little work in the raincoat trade. We have here a good local, No. 54, composed of true and tried union men. They had a pretty

good season and are keeping up conditions in the shops as expected. We have here, also, a local of waistcoats and underwear workers, No. 74, which was born last summer as a result of the fight we carried on against the H. Mode Garment Co. The strike was settled through the now celebrated court award handed down by Judge Parker, of the Illinois Supreme Court.

There are several thousand workers in the underwear trade in Chicago, and they are probably the most exploited workers in the local needle trade. The local already has its rolls several hundred members, a good standing and boasts a very active and energetic organizing committee. The drive among the workers is being carried on under the supervision of Mrs. Sam Glasman, and Mrs. Irene will reinforce him as soon as he gets back from St. Louis.

In St. Louis

In speaking of St. Louis one must bear in mind that it is predominantly an open shop city. With the exception of the cloakmakers, none of our workers were employed in that city. In view of this, all the more credit is due to the dressmakers and waistcoats workers of St. Louis for the splendid fight they have been conducting since July to organize their trade.

The readers of "Justice" are familiar with most of the details of the strike of St. Louis dressmakers, of the settlement of the silk dress workers, and of the current struggle of the cotton dress workers—about 400 of them—whose courage, tenacity and devotion to the cause for which they are battling are truly to be admired.

Mr. Bernard Shanz spent in St. Louis two weeks to help them better to organize their forces in the fight against some of the most stubborn cotton dress firms. I have not the slightest doubt, knowing the quality of workers we have in St. Louis and their spirit and courage, that we will have in that city a permanent and solid organization after the present drive is completed.

Kansas City

We have in Kansas City, Mo., a situation which resembles St. Louis in more than one aspect.

In Kansas City trade unions are not popular, but we have succeeded in planting up the barren soil under the leadership of the director of Mr. Abraham Plotkin, who is in charge of local activity for the I.L.O.W.U. Our Kansas City workers by this time realize the difference between a union and a non-union shop and they know that a union as an employer who deceives his workers with "blue eagles" is likely to

be a cheater and should be carefully watched.

The organizing work in Kansas City is not limited to cloak shops. It is spreading out to the dress shops as well. I should like to see the local of the local dress employers will prove not as blindly obstinate as some of their fellow cloak manufacturers and will accept collective bargaining and standard work terms in their shops as a logical and necessary development without placing the trade into a strike.

In the Smaller Cities

We are also doing considerable work in some of the smaller garment cities, such as Milwaukee, Wis., Des Moines, Ia., Peoria, Ill., and in some Indiana towns.

The urge for organization in these places invariably has come from the workers themselves who formed committees, held meetings and finally called upon the International for aid.

We visit these places as often as we can. Conditions in these shops are deplorable, but the workers are being treated worse than before, "new deal." They are, of course, working under the blanket code at present.

With the coming of the next work season, we shall strive to lighten the burden of these workers to the best of our ability. By that time, the code for the entire dress industry may be announced and should be of much help. Our work of the present, in progressing slowly in these localities, but we are confident that we shall be able to establish better labor conditions in these shops as well.

A Larger Staff

Mr. Bernard Shanz, who left two weeks ago at the direction of President DUBINSKY to help the workers of the cotton dress workers in St. Louis, is still there, and will probably stay there, as he is registered as a city permanent and solid organization after the present drive is completed. Our campaign in Milwaukee is to organize the local dress shops with a view to slowly as it is now near past the season, but by the start of the next season we ought to be able to achieve some results there. The workers which were discharged by the employers as a result of their union activities were reinstated through our efforts.

I may as well mention that the office staff of the Chicago Joint Board is growing. It consists of two business agents for the cloak industry and two business agents for the dress shops. I am continuing as secretary-treasurer and Rebecca Eisenstadt as a complaint clerk.

By Samuel Kaplan
Manager Local 4

The Cloakmakers' Union of this city has made excellent progress in the past few months. We are now in a position to meet the needs of our members. We are now in a position to meet the needs of our members. We are now in a position to meet the needs of our members.

Our first goal, we need not make any secret about it, the position of our local, notwithstanding the foregoing aid we received from the International, was rather precarious. But we have weathered the storm, and we are now in a solid footing. We're better off than last year. We're better off than last year. We're better off than last year.

And the morale among our members is high. We are in a position to meet the needs of our members. We are now in a position to meet the needs of our members. We are now in a position to meet the needs of our members.

Our second goal, we need not make any secret about it, the position of our local, notwithstanding the foregoing aid we received from the International, was rather precarious. But we have weathered the storm, and we are now in a solid footing. We're better off than last year. We're better off than last year. We're better off than last year.

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The Union Line in Cleveland Tightens

Clock Situation

Although the Cleveland clock manufacturers are still bogged in doing some business on second orders, the local clock industry is practically at a standstill. Owing to this situation, the completion of negotiations for an agreement has been indefinitely postponed.

Thirty-five complaints have been filed by the Union in the enforcement office and set up by the Clock and Suit Authority.

These complaints vary in content. Some of the workers are not earning the overages provided in the Code.

Others have been paid below the minimum. Some employers are operating departments on a week work basis which should be on piece work, according to the Code. We are insisting that retroactive pay be given to all these workers from the date the Code became effective.

With all due respect for the Code Authority, it appears that the enforcing machinery set up by it has thus far not been fully effective. The whole burden of compelling employers to comply with the Code is placed on the Union. Again, it seems evident that the only real protection for the workers is their organized union strength.

Price Setting Improved

It is important to note that although there is little work, a radical change has taken place here in the setting of prices and in the earnings of the workers for the days that they are in the shops.

As we compare conditions and prices paid last season with this season, we find decided improvement. In spite of the slack, the clockmakers are showing a fine union spirit and are consistently on the basis to see that conditions are improved around a shop.

Last week a meeting of shop chairmen was held to discuss the NRA label—a new feature for Cleveland. The chairmen unanimously pledged to carry out the instructions of the International not to permit graft labels to be completed without help.

In the Dress Industry

The dressmakers, especially the week workers, are anxiously waiting

By Abraham W. Katovsky
Manager, Cleveland Joint Board

for the announcement of the Code. They are impatient because the tentative dress agreement in Cleveland provides that the wages specified in the Code are to be retroactive, from the date of the strike. This is a difficult task in trying to collect the back pay from the manufacturers and contractors.

In the piece work departments, we have succeeded—since the settlement of the strike—to raise the prices considerably in comparison with prices prevailing before the strike. In some instances they have even doubled.

Without a permanent agreement or code, the Union has succeeded in establishing new precedents in the dress industry. In every case where a manufacturer makes his products in more than one shop, all prices are established by a given job, either in the inside plants or in other contractor shops. In two such cases could have been decided on. It is surely not based on greed or living nor are there any other economic reasons for it. The strikers are proper to protest against this provision to be sent to Dr. Taylor.

The improvements which resulted from the strike are gratifying all around. We have taken the dressmakers away from sweatshop conditions and have secured for them reasonable working terms. This does not mean that there is no room for further improvement. Our members were struck all along for even better conditions in the near future.

Embroiders' Strike

The Embroidery Workers, Local 52, is waging a bitter fight for better work conditions for the past five weeks. The newly organized local is composed of workers who never before belonged to a union. Most of the members are young American girls, children of foreign born parents. In spite of their inexperience, they are carrying on a splendid strike. Day and night picketing is necessary. They seem never to be tired to do active work in the streets.

It is a remarkable achievement, indeed, that in only a few months of union experience these girls have acquired the spirit of class-consciousness

and understood so thoroughly the ideals of the Union and the aims of the strike. They are displaying a wonderful sense of loyalty and a readiness to carry the fight to a successful finish.

The Cleveland embroidery manufacturers refused to agree to union demands and almost drove the workers even on the basis of the New York agreement that home work be abolished within six months. All through the conferences they have isolated that members of their firms, as well as foremen and foreladies, be permitted to work at the machine in a productive work—especially in slack time and have refused to pay the workers a living wage. There are only some of the reasons for the strike.

The workers in the embroidery industry expected the Embroidery Code to help them but, from the information received here, that Code is not the answer to their problems. On the question of wages, the employers have obtained permission from Deputy Administrator J. L. Taylor, for a 30 per cent differential for markets outside of New York. The Cleveland embroiders think this unfair and unequal for.

They say there is no reason for the differential being so great. In the Clock Code there is only a 13 per cent differential, and while the dress code has not been announced yet, it sure that it will not be greater. It is hard to understand how a 30 per cent differential could have been decided on. It is surely not based on greed or living nor are there any other economic reasons for it. The strikers are proper to protest against this provision to be sent to Dr. Taylor.

Strike Waged Without Funds

This is the second general strike in three months that our Joint Board is waging without funds. The dress and dressmakers strike began in August, and during that strike the clockmakers gave 10 per cent of their wages for a full week to finance the strike. Now, although there is very little work in the industry, the clock and dressmakers have decided to give 5 per cent of their wages to help meet the routine expenses of the embroidery strike.

To the credit of this general membership, this sentiment was agreed upon with a fine spirit of solidarity though no local meetings were held. The decision was reached after the Joint Board members, Executive Board members and shop chairmen had heard the report of the manager, and within 24 hours it was carried out.

But our problems is much greater

than meeting routine expenses. The strike is now in its fifth week with no signs of an immediate settlement. Because the workers have been out of work many weeks prior to the strike and the low wages they were paid before the strike, it is necessary to give them strike benefits. Most of them have dependents.

To reduce expenses, and also because it was necessary to keep our financial pocket lines around the shops, the Joint Board has set up a "hush room" which is being run by the strikers under the supervision of Mrs. Carrie Gallagher, one of our organizers.

General Revival

Only six months ago we were severely criticized for maintaining the strike during the past few years and, of course, the office, indeed, was too large. But today, what a change the office has undergone in the afternoon revival, the place has been crowded with shops waiting in line to see the manager and the business agent.

One need not be an expert to notice the decided change which has occurred in our office. We are taking very seriously now of taking space to accommodate our growing organization and are increasing activities.

At the office, outside of office help, consists of Louis Friend, Nathan Solomon, Peter Digiacomo and Mrs. Carrie Gallagher. They are working very conscientiously and doing everything, in cooperation with the writer, to make the ladies' strike in Cleveland one hundred per cent united.

Ashabula Dress and Skirtmakers' Union

Although only a few months old, the Ashabula local is on the job all the time, ready to fight for the dress and dressmakers strike in the Ashabula shops is at yet union member. But the union workers are determined to keep on trying until they have full control of the situation.

Since there is no agreement in Ashabula, the local strikers are planning "company salinas." The Union is on the watch and we are taking every precaution to guard. Some of the workers have been discriminated on account of this in the past. The Joint Board is now taking to the matter with the manufacturers.

In addition to regular activity in the shops, the Union is carrying on social, recreational and social activities and is planning to start educational work in the near future.

Since the formation of our local,

Custom Tailors Make Fine Gains

By J. L. Benach
Organizer

The New York Ladies' Tailors and Custom Dressmakers' Union, Local 28, went through a brief strike early in October and scored a number of vital improvements for its members.

35-Hour Week Won

The most important achievement scored was the introduction of the 35-hour week through the entire trade. The former hours were 40, and in many of the smaller plants the hours were even longer. The strike was called out on September 29 and lasted about two weeks.

The settlement, insofar as the large firms in the trade is concerned, was effected by the intervention of the NRA, which deputized Mr. Max Meyer, a former well-known cloak maker, to bring both sides together. The result was that seven of the most prominent Fifth Avenue couturiers joined in a group agreement, which was signed by the Industrial Council and assumed collective obligations for work conditions in their shops. These are Milner, Laitin, Cericop, Furman.

There has been a general revival in unionism in Ashabula. Among those who are organizing are the rubber workers, the fishermen, the bus drivers and the truck drivers. The International is getting the credit for bringing the message of unionism to this city.

Union Gets Recognition

Last week, our members were again surprised to hear that their manager has been appointed to the NRA Regional Labor Board of Cleveland.

The telegram of notification read: "Abraham W. Katovsky, J. L. W. U. Cleveland; My dear Mr. Katovsky, the President you have been appointed on regional Labor Board for Cleveland as one of the members representing labor in the mediation of labor controversies in your area. Your acceptance of this position will be a most substantial contribution to the solution of present industrial unrest."

ROBERT F. WAGNER, Chairman National Labor Board.

The writer considers this a great honor, but he attributes this honor solely to the Union. It shows that our Union has again won a victory in our industry and has won itself a standing in the community.

Magn, Nancy Gowin, Thurn, Harst Bendi and Bergfort & Goodman. Of these seven firms only the first two had strikes before the strike.

New Dress Shops Organized

The minimum for tailors under the new settlement was fixed to be \$31 per week. Among other formerly non-union shops which were organized during the strike are: J. L. Wood; Krystek; Made; 151 West 25th Street; Murli; King; 32 East 11th Street; and a number of others. In these, all piece work and regular work scales for all the workers was established.

May Join

Clock Body

Most active in the strike were Harry Hersh, J. L. Benach, Luigi Ram. Harry Greenberg has resigned as manager of Local 28 and J. L. Benach is now managing the strike. As the most important firms in the trade have now joined the Industrial Council and the settlement of inquiries in their shops is conducted with the aid of the New York Clock Joint Board, there is a movement growing among the active members of Local 28 to affiliate with the Clock Joint Board.

BY THE MILL

"A Strike Song"

BY MARY WALA

A Peterson Strain

Up to the tone of

The "city of the Moon."

By the "mill we meet every

my stage"

And join the picket line.

We'll fight and cheer every

Till 900 goes our line.

We are workers one and all.

With a whip, that never will fail

To back us all and on forever;

So come out you strikers every

And join our picket line!

... The Great "Out-of-Town" Sweep ...

A detailed account of what the Out-of-Town Department of the I.L.G.W.U. in the Eastern territory, has achieved in the past few months, I realize, would require much more space than what I can possibly report to be permitted in this issue. I shall, therefore, have to content myself with a brief survey of the most salient features of the whitelash campaign and of the background of our far-ranging operations.

I shall also touch upon the work that still remains to be done among the unorganized in this territory, as well as activity designed to consolidate the locals and branches formed and to be formed on a sound trade union basis.

Harry Wander

Beyond doubt, our chief difficulty in these "out-of-town" communities, "New Haven and Bridgeport down to the southern end of New Jersey, and Long Island, Westchester and Staten Island," has been that the workers, and the population in general in these localities, invariably had for years been under the impression that the Union was not as much interested in improving their conditions as in driving the shops back to New York.

As soon as a union campaign would begin in any of these towns the employers and their local supporters would start broadcasting rumors that the Union had come to take the local shops. And it would take superhuman efforts to convince them to the contrary, and prove to them that our only purpose has been and is to organize them, take unions and to obtain for them humane work conditions.

Our Campaign and the NRA

Many of our friends are inclined to allot most of the credit for our achievements in the "out-of-town" territory to the NRA. They are, however, and at all times, familiar with the circumstances. It would be futile, of course, to deny that the NRA attitude has created a good deal of favorable sentiment for us in these localities and has stirred up the workers. The truth, nevertheless, is that in most cases the NRA has rather happened than helped our unionizing activity.

By Harry Wander Manager Out-of-Town Department I.L.G.W.U.

When the blanket code was announced, it produced little impression in the larger cities, such as New York, Chicago or Philadelphia where the workers in our trades had been accustomed to earn much more than what the blanket code provisions called for. In the small towns, however, where the girls used to earn six dollars a week, or even less, the code wages appeared highly satisfactory. And if the NRA was going to take care of the workers, why trouble about a union?

It took long discussion at meetings and endless month-to-month propaganda finally to convince the dress, underwear and cloak workers, most of them women in these towns, that the blanket code was far from sufficient to meet their most elementary needs—above all to make them secure and protected, and that the Union has a much better code in store for them that could be enforced and made effective through the arm of the organization.

Ground Made Ready For Dress Strike

This was a part of the general preparatory work we had to cover and the obstacles we had to overcome. Gradually, however, we succeeded in winning the workers over to the Union's viewpoint, and by the time the general strike was ordered for the dress industry in New York on August 13, every dress shop throughout the "out-of-town" belt responded to the call of the Union. And they stayed out of the shops until the strike had been fully settled, the factories were uninjured and prices for labor settled for the entire industry.

At the moment of this writing, there are more than 25,000 workers in the various women's wear factories under the direction of the Out-of-Town Department of the I.L.G.W.U. They are classified as follows:

Dresses	14,000
Chemise makers	2,500
Corset and brassiere workers	1,700
Whiteline workers	1,200
Other crafts	600
Total	20,300

Phenomenal Wage Rise

It was no exaggeration to state that the wages of all these workers have been raised at least 100 per cent and

in many instances even as high as 200 per cent. Hours for all of them have been cut from 48 and more a week to 35. It is surprising to see, to these workers who were used to long hours will now not work a minute longer than 35 hours a week. And their complaint to the Union if an examiner or a shipping clerk remains in the shops after 4:30 P. M. The same holds true in many other lines of production. Workers who used to accept without a murmur whatever the employers were kind enough to offer them are now ready to strike for days to gain the prices they think they are entitled to. And our officers are constantly taken up with the workers are demanding their rights and conditions.

Such is the spirit everywhere. And we have the firm faith that now, after the workers in the smaller towns, which comprise the out-of-town territory, have learned what a trade union may do for them, that they will add to their own strength and protection, and that the Union has a much better code in store for them that could be enforced and made effective through the arm of the organization.

Our Officers and Offices

We have established until now 13 offices in the various localities which are under our jurisdiction, officered by 33 men and women in charge of administrative and organizing activities. These offices are doing splendid organizing work, among the non-union workers in particular.

The demand for organization we carried out the exhaustive drive we carried out, has not subsided yet, and we receive nearly daily direct appeals from individuals and from groups of workers to help them organize their factories. And each day brings new shops, a new roster and new members to our locals.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our organizers and to all the volunteer committees who have helped us in this work. We have to make a great drive a success. A great deal of recognition is also due to the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union for the office space and other aid they had given in this campaign in all localities where they have organized workers. This is the list of the men and

News From Philadelphia Market

By Elias Reisinger, V.P.
Manager Phila. Dress Joint Board

"Justice" readers are familiar with our general strike and the results of our organization which resulted from that strike.

I shall only confine myself, therefore, to a brief summary of our conditions right now that might give an idea, by comparison, of the general gains we have made.

Work Hours in Cotton Dress Shops

Since the strike, which took place in the spring of 1932, we have succeeded in winning increases in pay of 10 to 15 per cent. The strike, which took place in the spring of 1932, we have succeeded in winning increases in pay of 10 to 15 per cent. The strike, which took place in the spring of 1932, we have succeeded in winning increases in pay of 10 to 15 per cent.

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Our Work Staff

At present our staff consists, besides myself as manager, of two business agents, a complaint clerk, and four girls in the finance department. Vice-President George Rubin

women regularly attached to the Out-of-Town Department:

Max Goodman	Jack Grossman
Israel Horowitz	Joseph Jacobson
Abraham Blum	Harry A. Pomeroy
Marco Durante	Simon Himmelfarb
Charles Rinsino	Sam Cederbaum
R. Romaldi	Kathleen Gordon
Anna Kula	R. Sheb
Frank L. Mott	John D. Lawrence
William Altman	F. Connolly
C. Cirincione	M. Cederbaum
Joe Kabinow	Jack Nieberg
My Gippa	Irving Horowitz
Anna Sosenowsky	Joe Shubert
R. M. Goodman	Meyer Mayevsky

is taking care of the dress pressers. We are going to move to larger quarters as our present office is not roomy enough to take care of our increased membership.

Another difficulty, and this is one of the organizing problems of the future, is the question of local elections during a strike. We have four branches of the women's wear industry in one local territory, each in one employer's establishment. Each trade is different from the other insofar as work conditions are concerned and for each of them a differential already exists or is in process of formation. The workers of all these branches get together at the same meetings and as most of the new members are rather green in union affairs it is difficult for them to absorb the problems of the other trades and to digest and intelligently act upon them.

I have, therefore, suggested to the Joint Board that each industry be organized in a separate branch or local which would run about as follows: a branch of silk dressmakers, a branch of waistmakers, a branch of children's dressmakers, and a branch of cotton dressmakers. In addition to the existing pressers' branch and the cutters' branch. The Joint Board has agreed to this and a list of six branches or locals under one central authority.

Tribute to Pres. Dubinsky

And now I want to say a word or two, which has been not only on my mind but on the minds of all our active Philadelphia dressmakers for some time past. We owe a great deal to our warm tribute to President Dubinsky for his far-reaching cooperation in the strike and for his personal and to the Philadelphia dressmakers collectively in the task of rebuilding our Union. It has been tremendously helpful in building the dream which we have cherished for so many years to organize the entire anti-dress dress market of Philadelphia, a movement which, by the way, served as the first signal for the general strike of the dress industry subsequently under the banner of the I.L.G.W.U. all over the country.

It is a well known fact of the labor movement that the success of a strike depends upon the introduction of a label so that the consumer could distinguish between goods made under fair and decent conditions and those made in sweat shops where long hours and low wages are the rule. We have therefore and upon the day of the Union, and through them up on the workers in the shop, to strike for the garment. In this way the thing we have been fighting for and have now achieved will be safeguarded.

Phila. Dress Joint Board
NRA
CODE AUTHORITY

CLOAK SHOP CHAIRMAN INST. JOINED ON NRA LABEL

The following letter was sent by President David Dubinsky to all managers of cloakmakers' organizations at the New York City on October 15. A similar communication was forwarded by Vice-President Joe Rubin to the shop chairmen of the 15-Greater New York a few days later:

Dear Sir and Brother:

In pursuance of the provisions of the Code for the Coat and Suit Industry, which became effective on August 7, the Coat and Suit Code Authority established the appropriate machinery for the industry of the garment in the making of the arrangement, all coats and suits made in the industry after October 9, 1933, must bear this label:

Accordingly, we ask that you instruct the shop chairman in every coat and suit factory to see to it that the job operation in the making of the garment should be the attachment of the label. No garments should leave the shop without having the label attached to them.

In this connection I wish to draw your special attention to the distribution of these labels in some markets. The label is not to be used on red and blue-colored garments and the omission of a serial number. For your information, I am enclosing herewith a list of the authentic label. Every garment should be taken to check the use of these labels and the attachment of the label. The label should be drawn to this fact. The use of these labels is an essential part of the effective operation of the Code for the industry, and employers who will not take this responsibility upon themselves will be subject to punishment under the law.

It is a well known fact of the labor movement that the success of a strike depends upon the introduction of a label so that the consumer could distinguish between goods made under fair and decent conditions and those made in sweat shops where long hours and low wages are the rule. We have therefore and upon the day of the Union, and through them up on the workers in the shop, to strike for the garment. In this way the thing we have been fighting for and have now achieved will be safeguarded.

Phila. Dress Joint Board
NRA
CODE AUTHORITY

Local 22 Alive With Post-Strike Activity

Greetings to Old and New Members

We take this, our first opportunity, to extend greetings and to congratulate the many thousands of new members who have joined our organization, prior, during and subsequent to our recent general strike. We particularly congratulate our old members, whose sacrifices in the interest of the organization for a period of years have made possible the rebuilding of our Union to its present strength and prestige.

Our organization is still in need, and will continue to be, of our services. To our newcomers we offer our hand in comradeship. We ask them to continue their membership not only through the bare payment of weekly dues but by taking an active part in the life of our organization.

The thousands of newcomers who so splendidly responded to the call of our Union on the eve of the recent strike, have given a fine accounting of themselves on the picket lines during the strike. They have shown genuine enthusiasm for the organization, and we know that there is among them splendid material, capable of maintaining this struggle between strike and making our Union a permanent and strong weapon in the hands of the workers.

Room and Need for Constructive Activity

There is a truly progressive organization. All our members, regardless of creed, color or nationality are and always will be treated on an equal basis. Our organization offers its members an open platform for the free and unrestricted discussion of all union problems at our official meetings. We invite and encourage all our members to attend the meetings of the Union, to attend the shop meetings where immediate shop problems are discussed; to remain vigilant at all times to the fact that each of our recent glorious victory shall have been fully harvested. Only through such activity, loyalty and solidarity may we hope to escape for each and every one of our members an opportunity to work and to earn a decent living.

Unavoidable Difficulties

Lost the post-strike turmoil and suggestion create a wrong impression.

By Charles S. Zimmerman
Secretary-Manager

in the minds of our members. We believe to say that the organization is not unkindly of the many hardships and inconveniences to which many members had been exposed during this period. The rush for membership cards, the inadequacy of our headquarters and the meager office force undoubtedly had led to unavoidable difficulties. Hence the long waiting lines and the constant delay in attending to members' requests which, to the particular individual, often seemed unnecessary. Hoping that critical period has been passed, under conditions which began description a herculean task was performed. We are rapidly approaching a state of normalcy in the routine of our office work as well as in the disposition of shop complaints.

Having said all this, we should like to be understood as being totally satisfied with conditions as they are, both as regards the administration in the Union and conditions obtaining in the shops. It must be borne in mind that the last general strike found us with only a skeleton of a staff. To be exact, Local 22 had but one secretary, and he was twenty-five. And it is quite obvious that it is impossible to get out and train a staff of officers overnight.

Some Employers Dodge New Conditions

Coupled with this, has been the attitude of many of our employers who had only recently entered into contractual relations with us.

These employers had been accustomed for years to treat the workers as chattel slaves, to pay them whatever wages they desired, to make them work as many hours as they chose and to discharge them arbitrarily. And now, under the terms of the collective agreements, however, the employers are now curbed in the matter of dismissal of their employees. They have assumed responsibility for the minimum earnings of our members, etc., etc. And these new obligations seem to have been too much for some of these erstwhile open-shoppers. Do they have new obligations seem to have been too much for some of these erstwhile open-shoppers. Do they have new obligations seem to have been too much for some of these erstwhile open-shoppers. Do they have new obligations seem to have been too much for some of these erstwhile open-shoppers.

The Dreamers Resist

To the credit of many of our members, and particularly of the newcomers, it should be said that they have quickly grasped the significance

of their union affiliation. They have insisted upon their rights under the agreements and have asserted themselves as union men and women, refusing to do the employers' bidding and demanding full protection and, what is more, immediate action. It will be recalled that under the new agreement the jobbers are solely responsible with the contractors for the earnings of the workers. And when such complaints as to the earnings of their jobbers would forthwith refer them back to the contractors and vice versa.

Such a condition, of course, led to a congestion of complaints, many of which consumed long hours in adjusting, with the result that others, equally as important complaints, had to wait sadly long for their turn.

Some Immediate Problems

As mentioned above, however, the situation is rapidly mending, and it is to be hoped that, before long, the organization's machinery will be operating smoothly and satisfactorily. The expansion of the organization has naturally brought with it a multitude of new problems. And one of the most important ones among them is the problem of organizational functioning.

We shall have to make arrangements to make it possible for the many thousands of our members to attend membership meetings. For this purpose frequent section and district meetings will have to be held.

The last general membership meeting held at Cooper Union on October 19 was very successful. It is entirely probable that a large number of members could not gain admittance into the hall because of the lack of space. Through the medium of section meetings in the home districts many more thousands would be given an opportunity to attend.

The next problem, one that is inseparable from the topic, is that of making groups of members. Under present general strike has brought into our midst thousands of non-Latin speaking members. It is the duty of many of them who belong to the Latin-speaking races. Our meetings and our literature will have to be made understandable to these workers. The Executive Board of Local 22 is now considering both these problems and it is hoped to be able to report some definite results along these lines in the next issue of "Justice."

Education and Propaganda Department

One of the problems considered by the Executive Board is the trade

union education of our members. Countless thousands of our new members never belong to a trade union before. In order to educate them to understand the meaning and purpose of trade unionism, it is necessary to develop their class-consciousness and to make thereby our Union more progressive and efficient. A truly progressive and efficient Executive Board has decided to establish an Education and Propaganda Department. This department will be in charge of the education of the workers in the near future, and we hope that our members will utilize it to the fullest extent.

Enforcement Department

Another major problem facing us is the question of the enforcement of the 34-hour, 5-day week. Notwithstanding the definite provision of our agreement and the instructions broadcast among all the working men, many employers are openly violating the work-hours rule. Under this or that pretext, overtime, which has been strictly prohibited, is being worked in the shops. Some firms have even attempted to work Saturdays and Sundays. The Dressing Board, of which our Local is a part, has, therefore, established a special "Enforcement Department," whose function it is to patrol the dress district after 1 o'clock daily and on holidays. Brother William Zweibach has been appointed manager of this department. An elaborate plan, setting the appointment of shop chairmen along block and building, has been worked out to which, with the aid of the police, should help the Union in discovering every work-hours violator.

Every intelligent person understands, or should understand, that a certain amount of discipline is absolutely necessary for the efficient management of any organization. The larger the organization the more urgent becomes this need. And this is exactly what is being met when we speak of the work-hours violators and their discipline in our industry.

We Need a Larger Room

Last, but not least, is the question of headquarters, a question which has given us a lot of concern. Our Union must maintain a headquarters in the heart of or close to the dress district. And it so happens that the space we are looking for and the money we have available are practically impossible to obtain. We hope, however, that within the next week or two we shall be able to announce the definite location of our new headquarters.

Talk Out Your Membership Card

We likewise advise our members who, for one reason or another, have not obtained their membership cards that, in accordance with the

The Consumer and the NRA Label

By David Dubinsky
President I.L.G.W.U.

The launching of the NRA Label in the coat and suit industry symbolizes another step in the great fight which we, in common with all the enlightened elements in American life, have waged for years against degrading and degrading work conditions in women's wear. Starting shops in New York City and elsewhere.

The horror of that type of shop to the garment industry which has become generally known in the American language as the sweat shop, and the frightful conditions which it has for generations taken from the thousands of men and women employed in such shops are too familiar to require retelling. Nor need I dwell on the conditions which the growth of this industrial cancer had created within the industry itself and the cut-throat competitive practice which it brought in its wake.

Enter the New Deal

We are now entering upon a new deal in the cloak and suit industry. Thanks, in a great measure, to the comprehensive measures of the national recovery program, we have given our workers a new hope and a new spirit. Coat and suit shops are now being organized and a right system of control of work conditions is being established all over the land wherever women's coats and suits are made.

It is our duty to make the consumer aware of the conditions in the coat and suit industry. We have fought and built up a strong union. Our job is to continue defending and maintaining these conditions in the shops and constantly to build up and strengthen our Union.

We are confident that the dress-makers will be on guard and will militantly hold their task.

are being manufactured through the membership of the Code Authority.

The ultimate success of our campaign against the sweat shop plague, in the coat and suit industry, largely of the cooperation of the great consuming public and the immediate Government. Retailing interests, who make their money off the backs of the women of America, those who buy women's wear, who have waged for years for humane and wholesome work conditions in the coat and suit shops and for the highest standards of living and for the betterment of the workers and their families employed in them. And we ask the retailers, who sell garments to the women of America and whom whose good will and judgment they depend on, to give their aid and assistance in this drive of all constructive forces in the cloak and suit industry against ill, evil and the alienation of the working class.

Label Post-Strike Weapons

The NRA Label, now launched in the coat and suit industry and which will soon, after their respective votes are tallied, become obligatory on all other workers of the dressmaker and other workers of the trades, should prove to be a potent force in our campaign for a healthy, order and a decent work conditions wear industry. It should give us additional a first over these attempts to make men's garments made up in the sweat shops. It will be a competitive, practice stipulated in the agreements and in our codes. It will give us a new weapon in our arsenal of consumers a label of identification, an emblem that would distinguish the men's garments made up under fair and decent work conditions from hood or merchandise produced under severely inferior terms of employment.

I realize that our goal will not be reached overnight. We have a great deal of work to do. We must, before we can make the NRA Label on all women's garments broadly known to the public, have an unlimited campaign, however, that we shall achieve our task. The women of our country, I dare hope, will join in this campaign for the women who buy garments on the NRA Label on coats, suits, dresses, underwear and accessories. Let us, in a common, fraternal spirit, pursue, with more than anything else, continue the struggle that there is no room for defeat in this fight for decent work conditions under conditions of humane treatment of the workers. Let us, in a common spirit, stand to prove ourselves to be in good with the public.

number, especially assigned to each employer by the Code Authority and remains attached to such garment when sold to the retail distributor. Any add all employers may apply to the Code Authority for a permit to use such NIRA label, which permit to use such label shall be granted to them, but only if and as long as they comply with this code. The Code Authority, subject to approval by the administrator, shall establish rules and regulations and appropriate machinery for the issuance of labels and the inspection, examination and supervision of the practices of employers using such labels in observing the provisions of this code for the purpose of ascertaining the right of said employer to the continued use of said labels; of preventing purchasers from receiving or said labels, of insuring to each individual employer that the symbolism of said label will be maintained by virtue of compliance with the practices herein contained by all other employers using said label.

The charge made for such labels by the Code Authority shall at all times be subject to supervision and orders of the administrator and shall not be set more than an amount necessary to cover the actual reasonable cost thereof, including actual printing distribution and administration and supervision of the use thereof as hereinabove set forth.

ARTICLE IX

Trade Practices

The following practices constitute unfair methods of competition for the goods of the industry and are prohibited:

1. No returned merchandise may be accepted for credit except for defects in manufacture, delay in delivery, or errors in shipment. Further recommendations on such subject must be made by the Code Authority.

2. The Code Authority shall formulate a uniform order blank to be used in the sale of products. After such notice and such hearing as may be required, such order blank may be used as uniform order blank after which it will be unfair trade practice for anyone in the industry to sell to any purchaser except by the use of said uniform order blank.

3. It shall be unfair trade practice to sell merchandise at a cash discount in excess of 8 per cent 10 days E.O.M. (end of month), except that merchandise shipped after the 25th day of any month may be dated as of the first day of the following month. Anticipation of sale shall be allowed at a rate in excess of 6 per cent per annum.

4. The Code Authority shall immediately formulate regulations defining the practice of selling on unsecured, consignment or at retail

After such regulations are approved by the administrator, it shall be unfair trade practice for anyone engaged in this industry to sell merchandise on memorandum, consignment or at retail in violation thereof.

5. It shall be unfair trade practice to make secret payment of allowances or rebates, discounts, commissions, credits, or unearned discounts, whether in the form of money or otherwise, or the secret extension to certain purchasers, or to others, of the advantages of special services or privileges, not open to all on like terms and conditions.

6. It shall be unfair trade practice to sell merchandise except upon terms as expressly stated upon the invoice pertinent to such sale.

7. It shall be unfair trade practice to resort to subterfuges to evade this code.

ARTICLE X

Monopolies

This code shall not be construed or applied to promote or permit monopolies or monopolistic practices or to discriminate against small enterprises or to discriminate against them.

ARTICLE XI

Modifications

1. This code and all the provisions thereof are expressly made subject to the right of the President, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h) of section 10 of the National Industrial Recovery act, from time to time to cancel or modify any order, approval, license, rule or regulation issued under Title 1 of said act and specifically, but without limitation, to the right of the President to cancel or modify his approval of this code or any conditions imposed by him upon his approval thereof.

2. This code, except as to provisions required by the act, may be modified on the basis of circumstances, such modification to be based upon application to the administrator and approval by his discretion be necessary and to become effective on approval by the President.

ARTICLE XII

The administrator may after such notice and hearing and after making such appropriate amendments as may be in his discretion be necessary extend the operation of this code to such other geographical divisions as may be subject to the act.

Effective Date

The effective date of this code shall be the second Monday after it is approved by the President of the United States.

A. F. OF L CONVENTION MOURNS PASSING OF MORRIS HILLQUIT

The following is text of resolution adopted by the 13rd Convention of the American Federation of Labor, at Washington, D. C., on the death of Morris Hillquit:

The Late Morris Hillquit

The following is text of resolution adopted by the 13rd Convention of the American Federation of Labor, at Washington, D. C., on the death of Morris Hillquit:

Resolution

Introduced by special consent of convention, by David Dubinsky, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union:

D. W. Tracy, President Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America;

Charles A. Weaver, International Musicians' Union of America.

WHEREAS, in the death of Morris Hillquit the organized Labor movement of America has lost one of its staunchest adherents and life-long supporters;

WITNESSETH, that the public career of a half century, distinguished generously and constructively of this great gifts in the cause of the workers, as industrial adviser, speaker, writer and fearless defender before judicial tribunals;

AND WHEREAS, we recognize that Morris Hillquit incessantly championed the battle of the wage earner for higher standards of living, for the abolition of sweating shop conditions and for economic and social justice; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Fifty-third Convention of the American Federation of Labor, assembled in Washington, D. C., express deep sorrow over the demise of Morris Hillquit and unanimously tender his deeply felt condolences to his wife and family in this hour of their bereavement.

Toronto Workers Plan Campaign

By Samuel Kraisman
Business Agent

Pay-Cuts Stopped

The last few months have, no doubt, been quite encouraging to those members of the Clockmakers' Union in Toronto who have for years been fighting the good battle of children, never despairing, never becoming despondent at the obstacles which lay in their way.

At last the Toronto clockmakers have begun showing their employers that they possess an organization with teeth in it, a union that can stand up and defend the interests of its members. For the first time in a great many years, our people were able toward the end of the season to prevent the manufacturers from enforcing wage reductions in the shops. In the past it has been almost a regular custom for the Toronto clockmakers to have their employers threaten the workers with propositions of reduction pay bolstered up by promises that if reductions were made they would cut stock and "give the people" some additional employment."

This time we made up our minds to fight the strike, and despite the fact that in many instances we were compelled to face opposition not only from the employers but from workers as well, we carried through this demand for no pay cuts in nearly all shops.

More Greedy Improved

We believe that the membership now supports the strike, and that the results achieved thereby. And that only goes to show further that the spirit and the morale among the Toronto clockmakers has undergone a marvelous change. A year ago, when the writer of these columns assumed office, he heard nothing but grumbling and bitter harranging against the Union among the clock workers, and to such a lot of hard work and patience to convince the clockmakers that their only salvation lay in a wild trade union, and it is indeed, for to show that today they are practically to a man lined up on the side of the I.L.G.W.U.

Planning for Spring Season

We are already planning for the coming Spring Season. We intend, above all, to establish livable conditions in the shops for all our workers. Executive board meetings have

already been held for this purpose, and we are arranging to have a general meeting soon to decide upon specific steps to be undertaken. During the last season we have operated here without a collective agreement in the trade. It has been a guerrilla war all along, and despite the fact that we came out of it with our backs to the wall, we are now in a position to say, we regard it as not the most desirable method for obtaining and holding shop conditions for our members.

Our first step will be to organize the non-union shops still found here and there despite the insuperable obstacles which lay in their way. The strike of the Toronto clockmakers have begun showing their employers that they possess an organization with teeth in it, a union that can stand up and defend the interests of its members.

Children's Dress Trade Organized

By Harry Greenberg
Manager Local 91, I.L.G.W.U.

Drive Begun in Summer

We have started our organizing activity on a large scale towards the end of July.

The strike agitation in the dress industry, coupled with the intense interest aroused in connection with the formation of the dress industry, has created a stir in a number of children's dress shops and for organizing activity.

We began striking down in August and within three weeks unionized over 40 shops. Most of these shops were under the President's Reemployment Agreement, or the blanket code, so we met little opposition. The temporary agreements gaining 25 per cent in wages for the workers and leaving the 40-hour week in operation until further developments.

Strike on September 27

All the while, however, we were carrying on preparations for a general strike, especially after the great walkout in the dress industry and the marvelous gains secured by it had raised the imagination of all the workers in our industry. For the mass-meeting at Cough Union proved to us that the children's dress industry was ready for the move and we ordered the workers out on September 27.

The call was answered, conservatively estimated, by three-quarters of the workers in the trade. Within two weeks the bulk of the strike was settled. There have been no further strikes in the dress industry with the United Children's and Infants' Wear Association. We also

employment insurance fund and cash security for the enforcement of the agreement.

Tide Has Turned

The most cheering thing about this is that our members appear to be confident that they can go through with this program, and I have reason to believe that our members realize the same. Many others would have seen to it that the tide has finally turned in our favor and we are on the road to victory.

Our members, however, are not going to rest on their laurels and we expect our members, now more than ever, to pull up their sleeves, tighten their belts and get to work so that we may be in a position to talk things to our employers before the Spring season sets in.

made a large number of individual settlements covering all sold over 6,000 workers in 20 shops, for the largest number ever enrolled in our shop.

The hours fixed by the settlement for all shops are 37½, and a uniform range of additional 10 per cent was granted by the employers. A minimum scale of wages was agreed upon as follows: \$19 for operators, \$20 for first trimmers, \$21 for finishers, with a differential of 10 per cent for the cheaper lines.

Bathrobe Workers' Strike

While the children's dressmakers and the slipper and legging workers were engaged in striking, a large number of bathrobe makers, employed in shops which fall under the jurisdiction of Local 91, also walked out, and despite the fact that we had our hands full with the other strikers we did our best to minimize them.

Some 1,300 bathrobe workers and sent them back to work with a new contract, under which the I.T.U. hour arrangement. We, however, encountered trouble with a number of bathrobe makers, who were a group of their own and who have until now declined collective bargaining and refused to deal with the I.T.U. There are about fifty of these shops with close to 1,200 workers employed in them, and we still are on strike at the time of this writing.

Local 91, however, is ready to go on, with the strike in the dress bathrobe shops until the chairman of these employers is broken down and ready to deal with the strikers' strike benefits regularly for several weeks.

Los Angeles Strike Goes To Arbitration

As I write these lines, we received notice that the Los Angeles dress manufacturers have finally agreed to submit the issue of the current strike in their shops to an arbitration committee.

The Union has expressed its willingness to arbitrate the strike right along. Our position has been that the cause we are fighting for is so important to us that just that we need not fear to have the issues underlying it judged by a group of impartial men whose general integrity and good sense is beyond doubt. Until now, however, the manufacturers hesitated to accept arbitration despite the fact that the NRA had advised both our side and theirs that arbitration is the only way out.

In view of this development, it seems to be a question of days before the deadlock in Los Angeles will be broken. By the time this issue of JUSTICE reaches our readers, it will be no doubt be apprised fully of this new situation.

By Israel Feinberg, Vice-Pres.
International Organizer

A Fine Group of Strikers

One thing I am in a position to state: The Los Angeles dressmakers have established a group that should protect them against every forthcoming attack from the employers. Their militancy on the picket lines and solidarity in general has won for them the admiration of even their enemies.

Personally we are proud of our Spanish-speaking girls. They are an excellent group, and for the first time working together with all the other groups. We are having the entire Mexican population with us in this fight, so much so that they are being broadcasted on local news through the radio station at Via Juana, Mexico.

The Cloak Workers Organized

As far as the cloak and suit industry is concerned, I wish to state that we have succeeded in entering into contractual relations with practically all the worthwhile firms in the local market.

There are a few small shops here which do not belong to the Association, and we are now trying to reach these firms and to settle up with them. What concerns the cloak industry is the local workers admit that this has been the first time in the history of their trade in Los Angeles that they have been made with regard to radical improvement of work conditions through the instrumentality of a union. If the cloakmakers of Los Angeles will now take good care of their organization, they have every chance of placing themselves on the ground floor of the industry and establish real stability in it.

I.L.G.W.U. Locals in South Jersey

By Bernard Karp
I.L.G.W.U. Organizer

Just about two months ago, when I first came upon the South Jersey scene, it looked as though there was no work in the cloak shops of this district would never learn to understand the language of our International Union.

They seemed to have been under the impression that we meant to harm them, and I began to hear talks and discussions with them. I had been told by some of them that their past experience with representatives of the I.L.G.W.U. who, from time to time, would "urge" them to join the Union. Invariably, they complained to me that they would only lose time if they agreed to stop from work, and instead of improving, their conditions would only become worse.

Five Minutes to Leave

During my early experience, I recall, as I came into a South Jersey town, I was given just about five minutes to leave the locality. And had it not been for the help I received from the local dressmakers' organization, I am certain that I would have had plenty of trouble. Several days later, I succeeded in arranging a meeting with the town mayor and his chief of police, at which I had made it clear to them

that it was neither my purpose nor the policy of our Union to take any work away from the local people and then leaving them to care of the local dressmakers' organization, as was charged by some of them.

I finally convinced them that they were altogether in the wrong and that the I.L.G.W.U. had never been to take work away from their people but to bring union work conditions to the workers. Today this district's cloak shops are of Local 126 and they are fully organized. The same people who would not listen to me a short time before are among the best union people I know. I appointed a shop chairmen in one shop, taking as his first choice as my selection and I was greatly surprised at the manner in which he laid down the law to the employer in defending the principles of the Union and the interests of the workers in that shop. When the boss reproached her that she had worked for him a long time and had never before acted in such a way, she retorted: "Until now, we had no union to back up our rights, but now we too have something to say in reference to our wages and conditions." I feel, indeed, very happy over the change that has come over these people in the few short weeks they had been members of the Union.

Two Locals Installed

Local 127, of Millville and Vin-

land, N. J., has recently been officially installed and is located in the office of our Assistant in Vinland. The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers sent to the hall by the members of Local 127. At the meeting, the writer of this report was presented a gift as a token of their appreciation of the work he had done in installing the workers to build up the local. All the workers present pledged at this meeting their loyalty to the International as well as to the local union, and the manner in which they consider themselves now a regular part.

Local 126, of Camden, recently was also installed as a very successful and well-attended meeting. Shop stewards to the meeting, and members from the floor expressed their gratification over the organization of the cloak shops in Camden stressing the point that it has meant so much for them. They stated that they were feeling proud to be a part of the army of 175,000 workers organized under the banner of the I.L.G.W.U. Officers and executive board members were elected and Local 126 is now embarked upon renewed activity which will not come to a stop until every woman's garment worker in the locality is a member of our Union.

I have now appointed an organization committee to start unloading work from the dress and suit makers around Camden and vicinity, and the feeling among our active members is that the work has been laid away among them. More about South Jersey in my next letter.

Martin Plett, Leader of German Tailors, Comes Here To Lecture

Martin Plett, until the advent of the Hitler dictatorship head of the German Clothing Workers' Union, and an outstanding leader in the German Socialist and trade union movement, arrived on Monday, October 26, to New York from Holland on the steamer Volendam. He came to the United States at the invitation of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers to deliver a series of addresses on general and on the plight of the workers under the Nazi regime in Germany in particular.

First German Refugee Here

Leo Plett, who is the first German labor refugee to come to these shores, was met at the pier by New York labor organizations, including a group from the I.L.G.W.U. consisting of Vice-president Samuel, Max Lebowitz, Fannie M. Cohn and Max D. Danish. Late in the day at a luncheon, he was greeted by President David Dubinsky and President Sidney Hillman of the I.L.G.W.U.

"The German workers feel themselves at this moment in the position of a person tied hand and foot by a band of hold-up artists. They are embittered and dependent but they do not hate Hitler," Mr. Plett stated in the course of an interview with newspaper men. "You must be helpless today they are not hopeless; they are determined to make their time before they attempt to free themselves from the Hitler yoke." Plett, together with a number of other trade union leaders, was incarcerated by the Hitler police.

BROOKWOOD GRADUATES PLAN 3-DAY BAZAAR

A three-day bazaar, for the benefit of the Brookwood Labor College, from December 8 to December 10, is now being organized under the auspices of the Brookwood Fellowship, alumni of this labor school. All who are interested in labor education are urged to cooperate to make this bazaar a success. Those who wish to buy tickets and also donations to be sent to a gift or a committee of 144 East 17th Street, New York, telephone STUYVESANT 3-5121.

For several weeks in a Nazi barracks and later in two Nazi jails, but soon in crossing the border into Holland in June. A market anti-Nazi movement has developed in Germany. In recent weeks, Mrs. Plett said, it is actually and necessarily an underground movement of freedom or organization being ruthlessly suppressed—but the workers, deprived of all human and political rights, are struggling to themselves. It is a terrible situation in which they find themselves, but it will be much more serious when the workers get a chance to strike back."

Underground Movement Growing

Mrs. Plett said that one of the activities of the anti-Hitler movement was the surreptitious distribution of revolutionary literature in telephone books, in street corners and through various other channels, including cigarette boxes going into the retail trade.

"All such activity is accomplished by great danger, since to be found guilty of any least assisting the Hitler government is a crime severely punished," Mrs. Plett said. "The German labor leader declared that the economic situation has grown much worse under Hitler with wages declining and exports falling."

"The possibility of war or economic catastrophe is very real, with the threat of war being the more threatening of the two," she said. "The police of the Hitler government," Mrs. Plett asserted that "Hitler government figures must be taken with a large grain of salt." He charged that the government was "doctrines" both unemployment and export statistics.

Truth of the matter is that unemployment has decreased in Germany, contrary to the claims of the Hitler government," he said. "There has been a decrease of 2,000,000 unemployed in the government's figures, but this means also removed on many workers have been removed on the unemployment register without in any way being helped to jobs. Hundreds of thousands of Socialists and Communists have been driven from their jobs who had been registered as unemployed. The same holds true of women of women."

Mrs. Plett delivered her first talk before the local trade union council at a meeting of dressmakers' chairmen, on October 21, at Brooklyn Hall, in which she was met

FRIENDS CELEBRATE 50th BIRTHDAY OF LUIGI ANTONINI

About fifty friends and close associates of Luigi Antonini, Vice-president of the I.L.G.W.U. and leader of the Italian dressmakers, gathered on September 14, shortly after the conclusion of the general convention in New York City, to pay homage to him on the event of his forty birthday.

The little surprise banquet took place at Rindor's restaurant, 130 West 42nd Street. Only one guest, John Gels, chairman of the I.L.G.W.U. Executive Board of Local 49, addressed the guests of the evening on behalf of the I.L.G.W.U.

Remarking, "I feel Antonini's life is a real record over a span of more than twenty years in the history of the Italian workers' movement, and his services to the labor movement in general. Vice-president Antonini responded in a short speech reaffirming his pledge to devote his personal life to all his energies to the cause of the workers with whom his whole life is inseparably bound up."

Began Leadership in 1912
Luigi Antonini was the leader of the Italian group in the old dressmakers' union, Local 30, as far back as 1912. Later, he said, "Upon the official organ of the Italian Branch of the Dressmakers' Union, Aigial from 1912 to 1920, for years for a separate Italian dressmakers' local, which was finally authorized by the I.L.G.W.U. in 1926. Since then he has been a member of local of 1926 and in 1928 was elected to the General Executive Board of the Union. He led the Italian division of the I.L.G.W.U. in the general strike, as a result of which more than 100,000 were treated by membership."

Luigi Antonini is also widely known as a "proven leader in Italian emigration life in New York. He is a member of the board of directors of the New York Italian labor daily, "Il Nuovo Italiano," and is a very active anti-Fascist.

By President Dubinsky. He was greeted with enthusiasm, and his brief remarks, expressing confidence in the future of the Italian labor and Socialist movement, evoked the tragic protest it is passing through. The guests were rewarded by a storm of applause.

